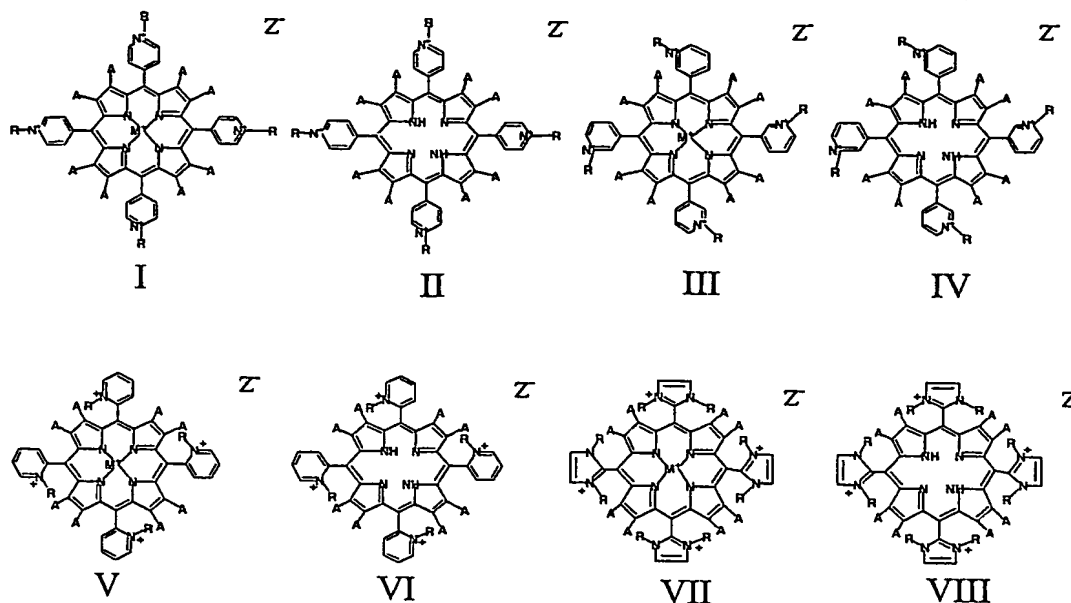


What is claimed is;

1. A compound of formula



when the compound is of Formula I-VI, each R is, independently, $-(CH_2)_mCH_2OX$ or $-(CH_2CH_2O)_nX$,

wherein

m is 1-6,

n is 3-50,

X is C_{1-12} alkyl (straight chain or branched),

when the compound is of Formula VII or VIII, at least one R on each imidazole ring is, independently, $-(CH_2)_mCH_2OX$ or $-(CH_2CH_2O)_nX$, the other R being, independently, a C_1 - C_{12} alkyl, (straight chain or branched),

wherein

m is 1-6,

n is 3-50,

X is C_{1-12} alkyl (straight chain or branched),

when the compound is any of Formulas I-VIII, each A is, independently, hydrogen or an electron withdrawing group,

M is metal selected from the group consisting of manganese, iron, copper, cobalt, nickel and zinc, and

Z is a counterion .

2. The compound according to claim 1 wherein at least one A is halogen, NO_2 or CHO.
3. The compound according to claim 1 wherein said compound is of Formula I, III, V or VII and M is manganese

4. The compound according to claim 1 where said compound is of Formula V, VI, VII or VIII.
5. A method of protecting cells from oxidant-induced toxicity comprising treating said cells with a protective amount of the compound of claim 1 under conditions such that the protection is effected.
6. The method according to claim 5 wherein said cells are mammalian cells.
7. A method of treating a pathological condition of a patient resulting from oxidant-induced toxicity comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 under conditions such that the treatment is effected.
8. A method of treating a pathological condition of a patient resulting from degradation of NO comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 under conditions such that the treatment is effected.
9. A method of treating a patient for inflammatory lung disease comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of the compound of claim 1 under conditions such that the treatment is effected.
10. A method of treating a neurodegenerative condition of a patient comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of the compound of claim 1.
11. A method of treating radiation injury and cancer of a patient comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of the compound of claim 1.
12. A method of treating a diabetic condition of a patient comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of the compound of claim 1.
13. A method of treating a cardiac condition of a patient comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of the compound of claim 1.
14. A method of treating sickle cell disease in a patient comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of the compound of claim 1.